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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/680,052	10/06/2003	Schuyler E. Shimanek	X-1271 US	6765

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EXAMINER

HOANG, HUAN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2827

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/680,052

Applicant(s)

SHIMANEK, SCHUYLER E.

Examiner

Huan Hoang

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 9-12 and 16-31 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 13-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 100603.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chan et al..

Chan et al. discloses a memory circuit having a first state representative of a logic zero and a second state representative of logic one (states of the latching circuit 105, Fig. 2), a pair of cross-coupled inverters (106 and 108, Fig. 2) having first and second memory-bit nodes; a bit line (WBL, Fig. 2); and a bit-access circuit (transistor 120) connected between the bitline and at least one of the first and second memory bit nodes, the bit-access circuit connecting the bitline and one of the first and second memory bit nodes during a write operation (column 3, lines 42-49) and maintaining a high impedance (transistor 120 is off) between the bitline and one of the first and second nodes during a read operation.

3. Claims 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sato.

Sato discloses a method having all the steps as recited in claims 13-17 as follows:

writing data to a memory cell by providing a first voltage representative of the data on a bitline (column 10, lines 1-2) and connecting the bitline to the memory cell (column 10, lines 3-15), wherein the memory cell stores the data (Fig. 2);

reading the data from the memory cell by amplifying the stored data to provide an amplified version of the data (column 6, lines 30-33 and column 12, lines 41-45) and providing the amplified version of the data on the bitline;

wherein the stored data is amplified in response to a read-access command (read enable signal /YB1, column 12, lines 60-62); and

wherein amplifying the stored data is amplified includes connecting the bitline to a power supply terminal in response to the read-access command (column 13, lines 23-27).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-4, 9-12 and 16-31 are allowed.
5. Claims 6-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art does not teach or suggest the following limitations:

each memory cell having a read amplifier having an amplifier input terminal connected to at least one of the first and second bit nodes, an amplifier output terminal connected to the bitline, and a read-access control terminal.

wherein the bit-access circuit includes an amplifier having an amplifier input terminal connected to one of the first and second memory-bit nodes, an amplifier output terminal connected to the bitline, and a read-access control terminal.

amplifying means connected between the memory bit-node and the bitline, the amplifying means selectively conveying the voltage level to the bitline in response to a read-access command.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

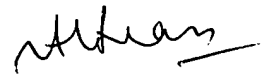
Wordeman et al. discloses a high performance gain cell architecture.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Huan Hoang whose telephone number is (571) 272-1779. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoai Ho can be reached on (571) 272-1777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Huan Hoang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2827

HH
3/28/05.